

NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Property Adjacent to the Former Allied Amphenol Site Leaning Tree Road at Olde Still Road ,Columbia, South Carolina

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) announces a 30-day period for citizens to comment on a potential Voluntary Cleanup Contract concerning property adjacent to the former Allied Amphenol site in Richland County. The contract will be between DHEC and a development group known as "Land Holdings Three, LLC, and Hallmark Homes International, Inc. The contract will allow the development group to buy the property as a "Brownfields" property. Brownfields may have environmental pollution resulting from past practices. The development group did not create the pollution but wishes to buy the property and voluntarily clean it up for reuse.

If the contract is implemented, DHEC will not hold the development group responsible for preexisting contamination in exchange for doing work under the Voluntary Cleanup Program. Under State law, the new owner will be protected from being responsible to anyone affected by the contamination. The contract does not remove any responsibility that former owners or operators have as a result of the contamination.

The property being purchased by the development group consists of approximately 32 acres identified by tax map numbers #22806-01-10, 22806-01-11, 22807-01-04, 22807-01-05, 22807-01-06, and 22807-01-09. The property is bordered by commercial retail properties to the north and east, residential properties to the west, and Olde Still Road and residential properties to the south. The property is currently wooded and undeveloped with the exception of an unoccupied residential structure that is in disrepair. The property is downgradient from the former Allied Amphenol plant, which has an on-going cleanup action because of groundwater contamination with industrial solvents. Groundwater contamination was previously detected in monitoring wells installed on the property.

The development group intends to construct a mixed use development with multi-family and single family housing on the property. Due to the potential for environmental pollution, the development group wishes to enter into a contract with DHEC's Voluntary Cleanup Program. Under the proposed contract, the development group will test additional samples of groundwater. If contamination is found, the development group will be required to take additional steps to protect human health and the environment based on the laboratory findings.

DHEC promotes redevelopment of Brownfields for beneficial reuse. Public comments on proposed Brownfields contracts help DHEC balance the environmental and redevelopment issues to be in the best interest of the state. The proposed contracts are available at http://www.scdhec.gov/lwm/html/public.asp. Printed copies may be obtained from the DHEC Freedom of Information Office at (803) 898-3882.

Any comments or questions may be directed to Gail Jeter, Project Manger, email <u>jetergr@dhec.sc.gov</u>, telephone (803) 896-4069, or Craig Dukes, Brownfields Public Information

Coordinator, SCDHEC – Bureau of Land and Waste Management, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201; email <u>dukescv@dhec.sc.gov</u>, TOLL-FREE telephone (866) 576-3432. Citizens may provide written, email, or telephone comments on the proposed contract until January 24, 2008.